Our Lady of the Black Hills
12365 Sturgis Road, Piedmont, SD 57769
phone: **605.787.5168** *fax:* **605.787.4106**
email: **olbh@olbh.org** *web:* **olbh.org**

Our Staff

Pastor:
Fr. Steve Biegler
steve.biegler@olbh.org

Deacons:
Walt Wilson, John Osnes, & Greg Sass

Family Faith Festival Coordinators:
Deb Steele
dsteele1957@msn.com

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Life Teen & Edge:
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teresa.thompson@olbh.org

Children's Ministry Coordinator:
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Cathechesis of the Good Sheperd Coordinator:
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jenny.scherr@olbh.org

Liturgy Coordinator:
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lorraine.ptacek@olbh.org

Parish Administrative Assistant:
Larry Williamson
larry.williamson@olbh.org
Office Hours 8:30-12:00; 1:00-3:30 M-F

Bookkeeper:
Lorinda Collings
lorinda.collings@olbh.org

Maintenance Coordinator:
Jim Wranek
jim.wranek@olbh.org

Liturgy and Prayer

Sunday Liturgy:
Saturday, 5:00 PM
Sunday, 9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
Daily Liturgy:
Monday through Thursday: 8:00 AM
Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesday, 8:30 AM – 8:30 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Saturday, 3:30 – 4:30 PM

Prophet Francis

The media have reacted strongly to text of Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, or "The Joy of the Gospel." An editorial by Adam Shaw (Fox News) was titled "POPE FRANCIS IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH'S OBAMA - GOD HELP US." Rush Limbaugh said, *"This is just pure Marxism coming out of the mouth of the pope."* Andrew Napolitano (Fox News) described the pope's views as Marxist, fascist or socialist. Yet, he describes himself as a "traditionalist Roman Catholic."

The good news is that everyone is interested in what Pope Francis has to say. With his plain spoken approach, Francis has captured the hearts of ordinary people, fallen away Catholics, and even anti-Catholics. This week I spoke with a man who has been away from the Church for 20 years, but he is reading *Evangelii Gaudium.* Francis is the most searched-for name on the internet and the most talked about person on Facebook. And he's TIME's Person of the Year.

Unfortunately, many are not very good at reading his words within the Tradition of the Church. They seem to have little knowledge of the recent popes whom Francis quotes in the document. They do not realize that his ideas are biblically based and solidly rooted in Catholic Tradition. In response to Adam Shaw, Fr. Andy Alexander, SJ (Creighton University) wrote:

> "[Francis is] quoting directly from encyclicals and exhortations from John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI. No legitimate reading of that document would lead to the conclusion that Pope Francis is reversing the teaching of the Church on anything. . . .
>
> I also suspect . . . that there are many Catholics, who have received Pope Francis' teaching as an examination of conscience and are more humbly saying, "I have a lot to reflect upon because the Holy Father of my Church is presenting me with some very deep reflections, based upon this long, consistent tradition of the Church and so I have to re-think a lot of things."

I am about halfway through reading *Evangelii Gaudium.* He writes much like he preaches, with striking images and thought-provoking words. He challenges everyone – clergy and lay people, consecrated religious, government officials, business owners, etc. It's true that Francis causes one to make an "examination of conscience." Not because he preaches fire and brimstone, but because his words about Christ's mercy or his application of the Gospel to the Church and society cut to the heart.

Have you taken time to read anything from Pope Francis? I am often amazed at how *religiously* people listen to their favorite media personalities (on the right or left). Some follow their words more closely than anything from Francis or Church teaching or even the Gospel. What is your religion? Where do you spend most of your time? Whose words occupy your heart? Who energizes you about the issues in society?

Some are calling Francis 'progressive.' Yet, Tom Krattenmaker (USA TODAY) seems to have said it best: "Pope Francis is not liberal or conservative: He is prophetic." Have you taken the time to listen to this prophet? Do you allow the words of the Scripture to feed your soul or prick your conscience? You will find much more food for thought in these sources than in the witty, yet often shallow and sarcastic voices on national TV. *Peace in Christ, Fr. Steve*

OLBH Parish News

OLBH Prayer Chain/Card Ministry

If you or someone you know needs prayer or a card for shut-ins, illness, sympathy, etc., please contact the Parish Office at 787-5168 or Mary Langbehn at 350-1907.

Intercessory Prayers

Life and Health Concerns

Joe Creek
Henry Maicki
Jim Wranek
Ray Walz
Don Thrall
Richard Ptacek
Pam Deaver
John Schaub (brother of Suzanne Wilhelmi)
Fr. Arni Kari
Marcella Kraft
Pam Jones (daughter of Dennis and Judy Schumacher)
Dawn Massie (Daughter of Patty Creek)
Duane Riedlinger
Reggie Gingras
Alfred Biegler
Lorinda Krammer

Repose of the Soul

Brandon Delzer
Mary Barbara Smith

Please contact the parish office to request prayers

The Collection Basket

December 8

Collection	4,840.97
Adopt a Seminarian	280.00
Bottles of Hope	5.00
Immaculate Conception	1,060.00
Rectory	220.00
Religious Retirement	495.00
Total	$4,835.97

Please prayerfully consider automatic payments via electronic withdrawals or check service. See Larry Williamson in the office for details or call 787-5168.

Communal Penance Services

Cathedral: 7:00 PM December 16
St. Isaac Jogues: 7:00 PM December 18
St. Therese the Little Flower: 7:00 PM December 19

An Invitation from Bishop Gruss

As part of our effort to renew stewardship within the framework of Hospitality/Faith/Discipleship, which we are calling Faithful Stewardship: A Catholic Way of Life, I am inviting all Catholics in western South Dakota to complete a survey about Hospitality. Visit the diocesan website at www.rapidcitydiocese.org and click on the hospitality survey icon for more information, or pick up a copy on the counter in the narthex.

Christmas Books and CD's

Our Lady of the Black Hills will be making available *The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic* by Matthew Kelly in either book or CD format to everyone attending Christmas masses. A generous parishioner has offered to sponsor half of the cost ($250), donations are being accepted for the remaining amount.

Cook & Serve Opportunity

If you would like to support the adult and youth ministry program, please sign up to help make and serve the Sunday evening meal. The menu is planned and the food is already purchase. Please look on the back counter in the Gathering Area for the new sign-up sheet and sign up as a family or a group of friends. Contact Teresa Thompson for more information, 787-5168.

Cornerstone Mission Thanks!

Thank you to all the Cornerstone Mission Volunteers-without you this ministry would not be possible. Thanks for your time and commitment! Merry Christmas and God Bless,
Estela

Donations for Christmas Flowers are Appreciated

This Week at Our Lady of the Black Hills

December 16 through December 22, 2013

Monday, December 16

Readings: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-9; Mt 21:23-27 (*violet*)

8:00 AM: Liturgy

Mass Intention: OLBH Staff

7:00 PM: CatholicSchoolHouse tutor meeting

Tuesday, December 17

Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17 (*violet*)

8:00 AM: Daily Liturgy

Mass Intention: Alfred Biegler; +Rev. Michael S. Roach (1989)

5:00 PM: Praying the Bible – Lumko

7:00 PM: Boy Scouts

Wednesday, December 18

Readings: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt1:18-25 (*violet*)

6:30 AM: Early Bird Bible Study

8:00 AM: Daily Liturgy

Mass Intention: Tom Ryan; +Rev. Albert Grueter, S.J. (1967)

8:30 AM – 8:30 PM: Adoration

9:00 AM – Noon: Food Pantry

No Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday, December 19

Readings: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25 *(violet)*

8:00 AM: Liturgy

Mass Intention: +T.C. Waits; +Rev. Francis P. Besendorfer (1946)

Friday, December 20

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6: Lk 1:26-38 (violet)

Necrology: +Rev. Joachim Huwylet, O.S.B. (1899); +Rev. Louis Gall, S.J. (1946); +Rev. Richard A. Plante

Saturday, December 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24 (Violet)

9:00 – Noon: Food Pantry

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM: Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 PM: Liturgy

Mass Intention: Diocesan Masses for Life

Sunday, December 22

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24 (Violet)

9:00 AM: Liturgy

Mass Intention: Pope Francis' intention for December: Victimized Children

No Faith Formation

6:00 PM: Liturgy

Mass Intention: OLBH Community; OLBH sister parishes at Bullhead, Kenel, McIntosh, McLaughlin, Wakpala, and Watauga

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Upcoming Special Collections

December 28-29: Typhoon Haiyan Recovery

Christmas Mass Schedule

The Nativity of the Lord: Vigil – December 24. 5:00 PM (Children's Mass)

The Nativity of the Lord: Night – December 24, 10:00 PM

The Nativity of the Lord: Day – December 25, 9:00 AM

Parish Office closed Christmas Day

"Optimism and hope are radically different attitudes. Optimism is the expectation that things…will get better. Hope is trust that God will fulfill God's promises to us in a way that leads us to true freedom. The optimist speaks about concrete changes in the future. The person of hope lives in the moment with the knowledge and trust that all of life is in good hands." — Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

Weekly Ministry Schedule

December 22, 2013

	Saturday Evening 5:00 PM	Sunday Morning 9:00 AM	Sunday Evening 6:00 PM
Celebrant	Fr. Steve	Fr. Steve	Fr. Steve
Deacon	N/A	N/A	N/A
Musicians/Cantor	Family Choir Brad Blauvelt	Traditional Rose Held	Covenant Band Maria Hartung
Altar Servers	Daylen Rhodes Gwen Johnson Shyanne Pothoff	Savannah Inman Andrew Denekamp Connor McCollar	Morgan Sears Corben Mahaffy Curt Mahaffy
Bread Baker	Mary Blauvelt		
Precious Blood	Patty Cresalia Charlie Desmond Eileen Desmond Meredith Willnerd	Brenda Jacobs Marty Quinn John Usera Bernadette Usera	Brad Blauvelt Mary Blauvelt Michelle Bucholz Lorinda Collings
Precious Body	Pam Wentz	Bev Kramer	Deb Steele
Hospitality	Sue Davies Mike Davies	Cathleen Denekamp Aaron Denekamp	Tristen Sears Marlys Sears
Lector	Kimberly Darata Joni Osnes	Diane Clarke Chell McCollar	Angie Oberle Bridgette Fode
Sacristans	Cindy Thompson Craig Thompson	Frank Boner	Matthew Blauvelt

If you are unable to serve as scheduled please arrange for your replacement

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Safe Faith Environment

Safe Faith Environment Training is mandatory for all paid staff and adult volunteers – please contact Teresa Thompson in the Parish Office at 787-5168 for information. **Upcoming training opportunities: Every first Tuesday at St. Thomas Moore Middle School – room 214.**

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Barbara Scherr (605)209-3418

Confidential and Caring: The role of the Victim Assistance Coordinator is to support "as a knowledgeable companion, persons who bring complaints of sexual misconduct by church personnel either to their attention or to the attention of the diocese."
Diocese of Rapid City, PO Box 678 Rapid City, SD 57709

Beginning Experience® Level 1 Separated, Divorced & Widowed Support Group, "Coping with Life Alone".

Are you recently separated, divorced or widowed? Are you struggling with the pain and loneliness? Healing can begin with the next the nine-week session of the support group. The group starts at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at St. Therese the Little Flower Church, 532 Adams St., Rapid City. The non-denominational group is open to all Christian men and women who are hurting following a separation, divorce, or the death of a spouse. Registration fee: $30.00; need-based scholarships available. For more information and to pre-register, contact Jill at Family Life Ministries, 605-716-5214 x 236 or jslegner@diorc.org.

Matching Donations Sought for "Diocesan Masses for Life"

The Diocesan Social Justice Commission will match total donations made for the "Diocesan Masses for Life" project, up to a total of $250. This is the seventh year the Diocese has helped ensure funds for the daily Masses offered throughout the diocese for the protection of all life. Prayer is essential to ensuring a culture of life in South Dakota and throughout the nation! Donations must be postmarked on or before December 31st, 2012. Please send donations to: Diocesan Masses for Life, c/o Mary Mitchell, 113

Bambinelli Blessing

We would like to invite the children in our parish for a special Bambinelli Blessing. The tradition comes from Rome: Each year on the Third Sunday of Advent, children gather with their families in St. Peter's Square for "Bambinelli Sunday." The children bring with them figures of the Christ Child — the "Bambinelli" — from their family's Nativity scene. During the noontime Angelus prayer, the pope blesses the children and the figurines they have brought. **We would like to invite the children in our parish to bring their Bambinellis from home to be called forward and blessed at the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass.**

PASTORAL MINISTERS RETREAT

The Annual Pastoral Ministers' Retreat will take place Friday-Saturday, January 10-11, 2014, at Terra Sancta Retreat Center. For all who serve the Church in religious education, formation, youth ministry, and evangelization- join us for time away for prayer and fellowship with other servants of the Lord. We will begin with Mass and dinner at 6:00pm on Friday, Jan. 10, and end with dinner around 6:30pm on Saturday, Jan. 11. All priests and pastoral ministers are welcome - please join us! For more information contact Susan Safford (ssafford@diorc.org) or Susan Thompson (sthompson@diorc.org), 716-5214 x221. To register, visit this online link: https://tsrc.wufoo.com/forms/pastoral-ministers-retreat-2014

TEC Retreat

Together Encounter Christ (TEC) is a Catholic Movement of Spirituality for older teens and young adults. TEC begins with a three day retreat experience enriched with a meaningful way to experience the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and His sending us for in the Holy Spirit. TEC is rooted in Catholic doctrine and liturgy, but teens and young adults of any denomination are welcome to participate. Please join us Feb 15-17, 2014 at Terra Sancta. Applications are available from the church office. If you have questions you may also contact Ralph and Rita Dupres 348-9676. Cost for the weekend is $75 and includes lodging and meals. If cost is a problem, don't worry, we have scholarships available!!

Interested in Expanding Your Family through Adoption?

Catholic Social Services is currently accepting applications for our Domestic and International adoption programs. If you are interested in expanding your family, please call 605-348-6086 to speak to an adoption specialist. The adoption specialist can provide you more information over the phone, by mailing you an information packet, or by scheduling an informational meeting with you.

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To find out how to join, contact Deputy Grand Knight John Gehlsen @ 391-3939.
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Save the Date!
OLBH Fall Festival Celebration will be November 10th!

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